Freie Universität Bozen
Libera Università di Bolzano
Università Liedia de Bulsan

unibz

Public Competition
for the admission to the PhD programmes
42nd cycle
Academic year 2025/2026
Faculty of Design and Art
PhD Programme in
Experimental Research Through Design, Art and Technologies

Website: https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/phd-experimental-research-design-art-technologies/

Duration: 3 years

Academic year: 2026/2027

Start date: November 1st, 2026

Official language: English

Art. 1 - POSITIONS

1. A total of **5 positions** are available for the PhD programme in *Experimental Research through Design, Art and Technologies*;

2. All information about the PhD programme in general, the schedule and its structure can be found at the following link: **https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/phd-experimental-research-design-art-technologies/**

3. **Positions with unibz scholarship: 4**

Positions without scholarship: 1

4. Pursuant to the general part of the present call for applications, the number of positions may be increased as a result of funding provided by other universities, public research bodies or qualified private companies. Notice of such an increase will be given exclusively on the Unibz web page dedicated to PhD programmes. Applicants wishing to obtain eligibility for any additional subject-related scholarships may make an explicit request to the selection committee during the interview, in order to allow it to assess the specific eligibility.

5. Separate rankings will be compiled for positions tied to subject-related scholarship. The positions tied to subject-related scholarships oblige the winners to carry out research activities relevant to the indicated subject. These will be assigned preferentially to applicants who make a specific request in their application.

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Application to the present public competition for the admission at the PhD programme in *Experimental Research through Design, Art and Technologies* may be presented pursuant to art. 4 of the general part of the present call for application, without limitations regarding gender, age or citizenship, by:

a) Applicants holding a postgraduate degree as per Ministerial Decree no. 509/1999, a postgraduate degree as per Ministerial Decree no. 270/2004, a degree of the former Italian university system of the following degree classes: all

b) Applicants holding an equivalent degree obtained abroad;

c) Applicants achieving one of the above-mentioned titles within the enrolment deadline. In the latter case, applicants will be conditionally admitted to the public competition and are **required to present the qualification by the enrolment deadline, under penalty of forfeiting admission to the programme.**

2. Language requirements:

A very good knowledge of English is required, which will be assessed during the interview.

Art. 3 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

1. In addition to the documentation listed in the general part of the present call for applications, the following documents must be uploaded to the application portal:

a) **Presentation letter** (in English in PDF format, maximum 3,500 characters including spaces, maximum 45 MB). Give evidence of the reasons for applying to the PhD programme in *Experimental Research through Design, Art and Technologies*, the reasons that prompted the applicant to choose unibz (in particular the Faculty of Design and Art) and the career prospects after completing the PhD. Include a brief discussion of your general research interests, questions and objectives, and add a summary of the skills you have already acquired (e.g. in research at master's level) and the techniques and methodologies you are interested in learning and applying in your PhD research. Candidates are encouraged to offer a personal and authentic perspective; therefore, they are invited to avoid the use of AI in formulating these texts. Candidates can also specify if they are interested in the position without a scholarship.

b) Updated **curriculum vitae covering the last 5 years** of experience in English according to the unibz format, downloadable at the following link: PhD-in-Experimental-Research-through-Design-Art-and-Technologies-CV-Template.docx If available, the candidates can include a digital copy of up to 3 selected publications (published, in press or submitted) from the last 5 years and/or a portfolio of up to 3 projects from the last 5 years. The candidate must provide the following information for each project: when it was carried out; the concept (maximum 3,500 characters including spaces); whether it was commissioned, whether it is self-produced or part of an educational experience; the role of the candidate in the project. Candidates may include links to other media to present the projects. All materials must be submitted in English in single PDF file (maximum 45 MB).

c) up to a maximum of 2 **letters of reference**, written in English by a university lecturer or researcher from a research institute, in which the work carried out or the quality of the same is described; instead of letters, the names and institutional contacts of up to 2 professional references may be provided.

d) **Research proposal** (in English in PDF format, maximum 7.000 characters including spaces, maximum 45 MB):

Candidates propose a research topic of particular interest to them, considering the research topics addressed by the current members of the Board of professors and the PhD programme, from a transdisciplinary perspective. The proposal should include: the title of the research project to be carried out, together with a draft of the project, and three motivated preferences for potential supervisors, selected from among the members of the board. The draft should include a discussion of the state of the art; aims and objectives of the planned research; a discussion of the research methodology. The illustrated research proposal does not necessarily represent the research to be developed during the PhD; in the event of admission, the PhD research project that will actually be carried out will subsequently be defined and approved by the Board of professors, after the start of the PhD activities as provided for in the Unibz Regulation on PhDs. Candidates can add annexes to the text document to accompany the proposal with other presentation media, such as images, visualisations, links to external resources.

Art. 4 – SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. The selection procedure consists of three phases:

a) applications will be examined ex officio for completeness and fulfilment of the formal requirements; applicants excluded due to incomplete applications or lack of requirements will be notified on the dedicated unibz web page. The publication will have the nature of a notification to all effects. No individual communications will be made.

b) The selection committee will assess the complete applications in accordance with Article 5, considering the qualifications and attached documentation referred to in Article 3. Applicants who reach the minimum score referred to in Article 5 will be admitted to the interview. Admission to the interview, as well as the relevant dates and times, will be communicated on the unibz dedicated web page. Individual communications will be sent in due time to the e-mail address indicated in the application form to applicants admitted to the interview.

c) Interviews will be held by **videoconference** and will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in article 5. Applicants must ensure the use of a webcam to enable them to identify themselves to the selection committee by showing a valid identity document or passport, under penalty of exclusion from the public competition.

2. Absence from the tests and/or interviews, non-connection, unavailability of the applicant on the appointed day and/or time or non-exhibition of a valid identity document or passport are a cause for exclusion from the public competition.

3. If technical problems occur during the interviews by videoconference, if the problem concerns one or more members of the selection committee, the interview is deferred to another date ex officio; if the problem concerns the applicant, the committee may, subject to the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment of applicants, postpone the test to another date for justified reasons.

4. Once the examinations have been completed, the relevant selection committees draw up rankings on the basis of the scores obtained by the applicants in the individual tests.

Art. 5 – EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. The selection committee carries out a comparative assessment of the applicants. For applicants who have expressed a preference for positions tied to subject-related scholarships, the committee also ascertains their suitability for the specific subject.

2. The following scores will be awarded during the evaluation of the documents submitted with the application under Article 3:

a) Presentation letter, CV, titles, publications, portfolio and letters of reference: Coherence of the candidate's profile with the research areas relevant to the PhD programme and transdisciplinarity – up to a maximum of 35 points;

b) Research proposal: formal correctness and terminological accuracy; consistency with the scientific fields of the doctoral programme, relevance, innovation and transdisciplinarity; clarity of the logical and argumentative structure; originality of the research project; clarity and methodological correctness of the research project – up to a maximum of 25 points.

3. Applicants who reach the threshold of 40/60 points will be admitted to the interview. Admission to the interview and the relevant dates and times will be communicated on the unibz dedicated web page. Individual communications will be sent in due time to the e-mail address indicated in the application form to applicants admitted to the interview.

4. During the interview, the following elements will be evaluated: aptitude for research; language skills appropriate to the language of the programme; ability to discuss the theoretical and methodological hypotheses of the research project presented. A maximum of 40 points can be awarded. The interview is passed if at least 25/40 points are obtained.

5. The final score is made up of the sum of the scores obtained in the assessment of the documentation and interview. Applicants and candidates who have obtained at least 65/100 points will be eligible. In the event of a tied score, the applicant with the youngest age will have priority.

Art. 6 – RANKING

1. Applicants and candidates will be admitted to the programmes in the order of their ranking until the number of positions available is reached. In the event of equal merit, the applicant who is younger in age shall prevail. In the event of successful placement in more than one ranking list, the winner must exercise the option for only one position. Separate rankings will be drawn up for each position tied to a subject-related scholarship.

2. The final rankings will be published on the unibz website on the page dedicated to PhDs. Such publication has the value of an official communication. No individual communication will be made.